

OREGON CROP WEATHER



Oregon
Agricultural
Statistics
Service

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Weather: All weather stations reported precipitation again last week. The Rome station was the only to record one day of precipitation; nine stations reported precipitation all seven days. Coastal areas received the most rain. Tillamook recorded the most with 4.35 inches, although all coastal stations remain below normal for this time of year. There were nine stations Statewide, that for the season, are over 100 percent of normal. Six of those stations are in central Oregon, and the other three are in eastern Oregon. Most temperatures were slightly below normal last week, except the coast, which was slightly warmer than average. The highest recorded temperature was 78 degrees in Rome; the lowest was 27 degrees in Christmas Valley.

Field Crops: Scattered rain and wet conditions continued to hinder field work throughout much of the State. Some hay and grain crops were lodged due to heavy rains in Clackamas County. Many grass seed fields in Washington and Yamhill counties were headed out. In Sherman County, most of the small grains have headed out or are in the late boot stage. Yield prospects looked better for small grain crops in areas that were very dry six weeks ago. Some dry weather is needed, especially in western Oregon, so producers can get out into the fields to spray and cut hay.

Livestock, Range and Pasture: Pastures and rangeland were in good condition throughout the State. Most areas have received adequate moisture and pasture growth has been excellent. Warmer weather is all that is needed in a few areas where pastures have been very wet with slow growth. Some dairy producers were anxious to start cutting silage, but the weather did not often cooperate. Livestock were reported in excellent condition throughout the State.

Nurseries and Greenhouses: Shipping season to eastern markets is about done. Field operations at nurseries were hampered by wet conditions all week. Major activities were maintenance and plant rotation. Retail outlets have plenty of plants for sale but wet weather slowed down the home gardeners. Iris growers are having open houses and iris plants are in full bloom.

Vegetables: Wet weather continued to interrupt vegetable planting schedules across the State last week. Potato planting in Klamath County is several weeks behind schedule due to wet field conditions. As of May 22, only 15 percent of the crop had been planted. Producers in Benton, Linn and Lane counties were

concerned about botrytis in their garlic crops this year. Many producers were just waiting for dryer weather to start or continue planting vegetables.

Fruits and Nuts: Rainy weather kept Willamette Valley orchardists out of the orchards last week. Clackamas County apples and pears have a light fruit set. Marionberry bloom is heavy. Raspberries continued in bloom. Strawberries will be ready to pick by about June 1st. New strawberry fields were growing well in Washington County. Strawberries were available at farmers markets and roadside stands. Blackberries were in various stages of bloom, to fruit set. Damage to orchard crops such as cherries was reported in some Polk County areas due to a hail storm on May 16. Southern Willamette Valley prunes and plums have a very poor set. Peaches were looking okay so far. Cherries and pears have a poor, to very poor, fruit set. Early apples have a moderate set. There was a large codling moth emergence the last seven days. Many tree fruits will have poorer crops due to the extended wet weather. There has been large insect and disease problems, especially with few spray days. Hazelnut growers need to protect their trees from Eastern Filbert Blight as the rain continues. Blackberries and raspberries were leafing out and blooms were appearing; there is a nice fruit set so far. Raspberries have a severe infestation of yellow rust, but with a nice berry set. Pseudomonas were showing up in most blueberry varieties; berry set looked moderate. Strawberries were starting to bloom and fruit is forming. Ripening is one week delayed already, with small fruit, and fewer than normal fruit. Early strawberries that are grown in covered greenhouses were showing up at market. Intermittent wet periods resulted in the initiation of pear scab infection periods early, mid-week, and late in the week throughout most of the Hood River Valley. Rainfall postponed the need to start irrigating orchards. Growers have begun hand thinning Bartlett pears in the lower valley. Cherries were progressing slowly in Wasco County. Orchard, berry and grape crops in Douglas County have had trouble with excessive rains the past month. Growers have not been able to spray enough fungicides to keep the plants clean. Jackson County apples, pears and other tree fruits were off to a good start although the wet weather slowed down some cover spraying. Wild blackberries were about to blossom. The ground was a bit too wet for strawberries. Vineyards were showing good growth. Josephine County fruit trees were showing a lot of fungus. The season has been too wet and the air too stagnant. Peaches showed no sign of curly leaf until the last week or so. No cranberry frost events were recorded on the southern coast last week.

Soil Moisture-Week Ending 05/22/05

	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Topsoil	0	11	78	11
Subsoil	13	22	61	4

Crop Progress-Week Ending 05/22/05

Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5 year average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Winter wheat headed	42	23	43	24
Barley planted	97	93	95	94
Barley emerged	86	81	79	83
Spring wheat planted	100	98	100	99
Spring wheat emerged	91	88	94	85
Days suitable for fieldwork	3.5	3.6	-	-

Crop Condition-Week Ending 05/22/05

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Winter wheat	1	6	29	54	10
Spring wheat	0	12	38	45	5
Barley	0	1	25	45	29
Range and pasture	2	4	23	58	13

WESTERN OREGON

BENTON/LINN/LANE: The Willamette Valley has had rain all week, ditches are running full here on the valley floor and there has been a bit of snow fall in the mountains. In good shape currently on water for the month of May. Some drying time is needed so that the row crop farmers can get back into their fields and getting planting done. Some wheat varieties heading already- pollen loads increasing. Heavy rains knocking plants over. Prunes and plums have a very poor set. Peaches are looking OK so far. Cherries and pears have poor, to very poor, set. Early apples have a moderate set. Huge codling moth emergence the last seven days. Many tree fruits will have poorer crops due to the extended wet weather. Huge insect and disease problems, especially with few spray days. Hazelnut growers need to protect their trees from EFB as the rain continues! Blackberries and raspberries leafing out and blooms appearing. Nice fruit set so far. Raspberries have a severe infestation of yellow rust, nice berry set. Pseudomonas showing up in most blueberry varieties. Berry set looks moderate. Strawberries are starting bloom and fruit is forming. Ripening is one week delayed already, small fruit and fewer than normal fruit. Early strawberries that are grown in covered greenhouses are showing up at market. Radishes, shallots, new potatoes, garlic, lettuce mixes, onions, chives, chard, carrots are ready. Soil still very wet. Early garlic coming out already. Botrytis may be big in garlic this year. Cold effecting some greenhouse crops. Greenhouses are full of new plants. Many markets just starting to grow. Sales still down in all areas.

CLACKAMAS: Rain fell every day during this past week. Some lodging of hay and grain crops due to heavy rains. No field activity. Very light fruit set on apples and pears. Strawberries will be ready to pick by about June 1st. Marionberry bloom is heavy. Raspberries are blooming. Vegetable field preparation and planting on hold. Planting schedules have been interrupted. Nursery operations hampered by wet conditions. Livestock having trouble keeping up with pasture growth.

COOS/CURRY: Overcast and unseasonably rainy weather conditions continued throughout the period. No cranberry frost events were recorded at this location during the week. Bandon experienced another 1.35 inches of rainfall on the week, bringing in the month total over 5.5 inches. Normal for the entire month of May is 3.12 inches. Low lying pastures continue to experience flooding from surface water unable to run-off, and hay/silage production is being delayed on the bottoms. Moderate precipitation and breezy at times. Soil temperatures were in the low 60s. Days since precipitation of 0.25" or more at Bandon: 2 days, at Brookings-Harbor: 1 day. Average air temperatures at coastal AgriMet weather stations ranged from 56.1 at Bandon to 56.2 deg F at Brookings-Harbor; highs ranged from 63.7 at Brookings-Harbor to 63.9 deg F at Bandon, and lows ranged from 45.6 at Bandon to 48.5 deg F at Brookings-Harbor. Precipitation ranged from 1.57" at Bandon to 3.73" at Brookings-Harbor. Growing degree days (base 50 deg F) ranged from 46 GDD at Brookings-Harbor to 47 GDD at Bandon.

DOUGLAS: The orchard, berry and grape crops have had trouble with excessive rains the past month and have not been able to spray enough fungicides to keep the plants clean. Vegetable growers have had delays getting summer crops planted. Grain and hay growers have seen hay laying down.

JACKSON: Another wet week, but still most were busy with maintenance and other chores. Some field work, but not much, just too wet. Crops that were already planted liked the weather this week. Lots of good growth on hay crops. Apples, pears and other tree fruits are off to a good start. The wet weather slowed down some cover spraying, but next week is forecasted to be drier. Wild blackberries are about to blossom. Ground has been a bit too wet for strawberries. Vineyards showing good growth. Not much done with vegetable plantings this week, too wet. Crops already planted are showing good growth. Greenhouses are very busy with new vegetable and flower starts. Lots of both for sale at outlets. Nurseries also very busy with potted plants, shrubs and balled/burlap products. Lots of cattle now on valley pastures. Grass is really showing lots of good growth. Most livestock looks quite good.

JOSEPHINE: Very busy week. Weather mild, wet, windy. Lots of broken branches on trees because of the wind with all the new sopping wet growth. Measurable precipitation on most days but could still work outside, mowing not possible but plowing was. Ranchers are behind in mowing and say it will probably be a week of dry weather before they will be able to hay because the fields and hay are too wet to cut, and will rot if they lay it down on the ground. Fruit trees are showing a lot of fungus. The season has been too wet and the air too stagnant. Peaches showed no sign of curly leaf until the last week or so.

MARION: Wet weather has been mostly good for field crops, but has kept growers out of fields on some days. First cutting of alfalfa needing to be made, but weather hasn't cooperated very well. Rains continued to delay spring vegetable plantings. Grass seed crops looking quite good but foliar diseases are active.

MULTNOMAH: Still too wet to plow, but future looks so bright, better wear shades.

POLK: Heavy hail storm on May 16th in areas. Damage to orchard crops such as cherries was reported from the storm. Record rainfall for a one day period in May was reported in Salem. Heavy thunderstorms throughout the last week with below average high temperatures.

WASHINGTON: High temperature for week was 70 degrees, low was 40 degrees with 2.4" of rainfall. Some alfalfa sheep grazed to slow maturity. Crimson clover at full bloom. Red clover ready to cut for hay or silage. Seed grass well headed. New strawberry fields growing well. Strawberries at farmers markets and roadside stands. Blackberries in stages of blooming to fruit set. Planted cole crops doing well. Some green peas blooming. No sweet corn planted in the area. Nurseries waiting for sunshine, doing maintenance and plant rotation. New Buffalo calves looking good. Pastures very wet and now growing slowly.

YAMHILL: Perennial rye grass has headed out. Dairies are anxious to get started on silage but weather didn't cooperate. Rainy weather kept Willamette Valley orchardists out of the orchards all week.

EASTERN OREGON

BAKER: Spring rain showers have been a big blessing for all agriculture producers. Spring field work continues and livestock have been moved to spring pasture.

CROOK/DESCHUTES/JEFFERSON: A lot less moisture fell this last week even though it was cloudy, and temperatures were a little warmer. Predicted temperatures for the coming week of 60's to high 70's, and sunshine will really get fields growing. Winter barley is beginning to head out on late planted fields. Early planted winter barley started heading out the week before. Some winter wheat was at late boot to early heading. Grass hay and alfalfa harvest will probably begin this coming week, if the fields (soil) are dry enough, especially in Jefferson County, maybe some in Crook and a little in Deschutes County

GILLIAM: We are hearing the same things again this week - north end is still in bad shape but the rest of the county is improving. Approximately 2.5 inches of rain received in south Gilliam County for the month of May, with a third inch of that received this past week.

HARNEY: Rain continued; filling reservoirs and growing grass. Prospects greatly improved for meadow hay crop.

HOOD RIVER: Intermittent wet periods resulted in the initiation of pear scab infection periods early, mid-week, and late in the week throughout most of the Hood River Valley. Rainfall has postponed the need to start irrigating orchards. Growers have begun hand thinning Bartlett pears in the lower valley.

KLAMATH: Rain and cool weather continued at the beginning of the week. Warm temperatures and dry weather at the end of the week. Delays continue for planting of some crops. Field operations stalled due to rains. Crops look good - no need to irrigate. Some alfalfa ready to harvest, but rain is creating problems. Potatoes are 15% planted. Wet weather great for water year and ground water recharge, but potato planting is several weeks behind.

LAKE: Some precipitation during the week--had some clear skies and warmer days towards the end of the week and over the weekend. Pastures have really taken off with good weather.

MALHEUR: Rain every other day last week essentially stopped all field work. Winter wheat is in excellent condition. The first cutting of alfalfa has been delayed until fields dry out. Irrigation water availability is better than it has been the past three years.

MORROW: It's about time! Mother Nature is not wasting all the rain on the west side of the State. For the last two weeks it rained every day or two. There is no deep moisture, but as rain continues as it has recently, farmers will be much better off than expected six weeks ago.

SHERMAN: Most of the small grains have headed out, or are in the boot and just about ready to head. Pastures are even experiencing more grass growth. Only two days even possible for field work. Some spraying was done in the grain, but not much field work got done. Rains have been most welcome and have perked up a dying crop. Excellent field trip with Jill Clapperton of Lethbridge, Alberta. Expect some change in practices in next few years.

UNION: Grass seed headed. Rain continuing. Animals starting to gather two by two.

WASCO: Most of the week continued cool and damp. Over a half inch of precipitation was recorded again this week, a real blessing to the grain farmers. The week, as a general, was quite windy for applying herbicides on no-till grain acreage. Cherries progressing slowly. Alfalfa hay nearing time to swath, waiting for dry weather. Cattle and sheep are doing well on ranges and pastures.

WALLOWA: Good moisture received during the week, although some barley may not get planted due to the extremely wet conditions. In spite of all of the rain, some livestock producers will be hauling water to areas where ponds did not fill. Rangeland grass is in good condition.

Weather data for selected stations in Oregon, Week ending: May 22, 2005 (as of 11:00 am)

Station	Air temperature ¹				Growing ² Degree days		Last week precip. ³			Season cum. Precipitation ⁴			
	Low	High	Avg.	DFN	Total	DFN	Total Inches	DFN	Days	Total Inches	DFN	Pct. Normal	Days
COASTAL AREAS													
Astoria/Clatsop	46	63	55	+2	34	+13	2.33	1.70	7	56.54	-4.43	93	153
Bandon ⁵	46	64	56	+4	43	+24	1.35	0.75	6	54.40	-1.21	98	141
Crescent City	47	63	56	+4	46	+18	2.45	1.80	6	52.63	-9.15	85	116
Florence	45	65	55	+2	34	+10	2.13	1.29	6	58.83	-12.40	83	141
Tillamook	45	66	54	+3	33	+17	4.35	3.37	7	65.45	-15.79	81	151
WILLAMETTE VALLEY													
Aurora ⁵	41	66	55	-2	33	-7	1.94	1.45	7	28.55	-8.76	77	140
Corvallis	41	68	56	+2	44	+8	1.04	0.62	4	19.55	-19.97	49	107
Detroit Lake ⁵	42	65	51	+1	12	-4	3.23	2.49	7	34.82	-27.77	56	93
Eugene	40	67	55	-2	34	-10	1.15	0.66	6	24.11	-21.90	52	123
Hillsboro	39	65	54	-2	33	-6	1.18	0.83	7	24.74	-9.54	72	138
McMinnville	37	65	53	-4	26	-17	1.48	1.06	7	22.48	-18.18	55	134
Portland	45	68	56	-2	46	-7	2.16	1.69	7	25.19	-7.51	77	136
Salem	40	65	55	-1	35	-2	2.16	1.74	6	24.16	-11.97	67	121
SW VALLEYS													
Grants Pass	41	73	57	-4	49	-18	0.76	0.48	6	27.84	-1.83	94	103
Medford	40	75	57	-2	52	-8	0.43	0.22	4	16.53	-0.78	95	85
Roseburg	44	69	56	-2	45	-7	1.24	0.91	5	26.28	-4.34	86	104
NORTH CENTRAL													
Condon	34	65	50	-3	7	-15	0.95	0.70	7	10.19	-1.33	88	83
Echo ⁵	40	76	58	-3	57	-12	0.40	0.26	5	4.93	-2.80	64	95
Heppner	39	70	54	-3	30	-14	1.08	0.74	6	9.43	-2.19	81	93
Hermiston	43	76	59	-2	65	-4	0.54	0.40	5	5.60	-2.09	73	62
John Day	37	65	51	-4	14	-17	0.85	0.50	5	10.38	0.33	103	97
Madras ⁵	35	66	51	-4	12	-24	0.27	0.07	3	8.59	0.17	102	95
Moro	35	68	52	-3	17	-13	0.84	0.63	6	8.47	-1.11	88	92
Parkdale ⁵	34	62	50	-7	8	-36	0.89	0.68	6	19.39	-9.80	66	125
Pendleton	40	68	55	-5	35	-25	1.01	0.80	6	7.73	-2.54	75	84
The Dalles	40	70	56	+2	48	+11	0.52	0.38	5	8.53	-2.40	78	85
SOUTH CENTRAL													
Agency Lake ⁵	36	65	47	-3	2	-12	0.67	0.46	4	12.23	-1.78	87	75
Bend	33	64	50	-2	6	-11	0.12	-0.08	5	11.25	1.70	118	70
Burns	32	68	50	-3	10	-10	0.68	0.47	4	10.86	3.10	140	86
Christmas Valley ⁵	27	67	46	-9	-	-31	0.25	0.04	5	8.35	-1.65	84	78
Klamath Falls	31	70	48	-6	4	-25	0.54	0.33	5	11.01	-0.62	95	76
Klamath Falls ⁵	31	68	47	-7	3	-26	0.39	0.18	4	10.47	-1.16	90	105
Lakeview	34	70	50	-3	9	-13	0.86	0.51	3	7.40	-5.70	56	55
Lorella ⁵	32	70	48	-6	6	-23	0.62	0.41	4	11.79	0.16	101	105
Redmond	28	64	50	-3	10	-10	0.10	-0.04	2	9.03	2.44	137	75
Worden ⁵	31	69	47	-8	1	-28	0.48	0.27	5	10.30	-1.33	89	92
NORTHEAST													
Baker City	32	67	50	-4	11	-14	0.47	0.19	5	8.81	1.31	117	80
Joseph	33	62	49	+1	7	+0	1.31	0.83	5	15.22	-5.37	74	107
La Grande	36	66	52	-4	17	-18	1.04	0.69	6	9.65	-4.32	69	81
Prairie City ⁵	33	66	49	+2	4	+0	0.64	0.29	5	11.53	-5.67	67	73
Union	35	71	53	-1	32	+8	1.30	0.95	7	12.28	2.15	121	92
SOUTHEAST													
Ontario	39	74	57	-5	51	-23	0.82	0.66	3	6.57	-1.46	82	51
Rome	33	78	54	-3	35	-10	0.03	-0.18	1	7.29	1.16	119	62

¹ Air temperature in degrees Fahrenheit. ² Growing degree days base-50 degrees Fahrenheit. ³ Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches. ⁴ Season cumulative precipitation starts September 1, 2004. ⁵ Agri-Met weather stations.

DFN=Departure from normal (using 1961-1990 normals period).
Precipitation days = Days with precipitation of 0.01 inch or more.

Summary based on NWS data.
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